October 12 – 18, 2023 NEWS YOU CAN USE, NEWS YOU CAN TRUST 75¢

THE EAGLE

A PUBLICATION OF ASSOCIATED NEWSPAPERS OF MICHIGAN

THE BELLEVILLE ENTERPRISE • THE CANTON EAGLE • THE INKSTER LEDGER STAR • THE NORTHVILLE EAGLE
THE PLYMOUTH EAGLE • THE ROMULUS ROMAN • THE WAYNE EAGLE • THE WESTLAND EAGLE

No. 41 www.associatednewspapers.net

THE BELLEVILLE ENTERPRISE
Vol. 138, No. 41

The Sumpter Township Fall Vendors Market and Bake Sale will take place from 9 a.m. until 4 p.m. Friday Oct. 27 and Saturday, Oct. 28

See page 6.

THE CANTON EAGLE
Vol. 76, No. 41

A cabaret of entertainment is planned Oct. 25 at the Village Theatre in Canton to benefit the Relay For Life of Canton and Plymouth event planned for next spring.

See page 5.

THE INKSTER LEDGER STAR
Vol. 76, No. 41

Inkster police are searching for Yanko Romero, 40, who is considered a person of interest in the death of a 34-year-old Inkster resident.

See page 6.

THE NORTHVILLE EAGLE
Vol. 23, No. 41

The Northville District Library offers much more than the traditional books, CDs, and movies that most people might expect.

See page 2.

THE PLYMOUTH EAGLE
Vol. 23, No. 41

Paving of the new municipal parking lot on Ann Arbor Trail and Deer Street was under way last week as crews installed the base coat of asphalt.

See page 3.

THE ROMULUS ROMAN
Vol. 138, No. 41

Members of the Romulus High School Marching Eagles will participate in the 97th America's Thanksgiving Parade® presented by Gardner White in downtown Detroit.

See page 6.

THE WAYNE EAGLE
Vol. 76, No. 41

While Halloween pumpkins and decorations are appearing throughout the community, Wayne and Westland officials have Thanksgiving on their minds.

See page 4.

THE WESTLAND EAGLE
Vol. 76, No. 41

Westland Mayor Michael P. Londeau used his first State of the City address to honor three residents for their commitment to improving the quality of life in the city.

See page 4.

Inkster mayor indicted on bribery charges

Inkster Mayor Patrick Wimberly, 49, has been indicted on federal bribery charges, and is accused of receiving $50,000 from a developer to guarantee the purchase of city-owned property.

Wimberly, who was elected to his first term as mayor in 2019, is currently campaigning for reelection. Wimberly previously served on the Inkster City Council and as mayor is $105,000 annually. If convicted of the felony charges, he could face 10 years in prison and a $250,000 fine.

According to the federal indictment, Wimberly first suggested on 2022 to the unnamed developer that he could ensure the successful purchase of the city-owned property. The indictment claims that in September of 2022, Wimberly demanded $100,000 from the developer to guarantee the sale of the unidentified site, telling the developer he could control the necessary approval vote of the seven-member city council. The developer allegedly agreed to pay Wimberly $5,000 a month, increasing the payments to $10,000 monthly, the indictment claims. Wimberly is accused of accepting $5,000 from the developer at that 2022 meeting.

> *Elected public officials owe a duty to their community to act in the citizens' best interest.*

The indictment claims that Wimberly received $5,000 in November and another $5,000 in early December. Wimberly requested the January payment from the developer in advance and in February demanded the increased $10,000 amount, according to the court filings.

Wimberly continued to accept $10,000 payments until April, prosecutors said, meeting at the mayor's office and in his car. The alleged bribes were paid from September of 2022 through April of this year.

"Mr. Wimberly was elected to serve the people of Inkster, yet he prioritized his personal interests and greed over their needs," Cheyvoryea Gibson, special agent in charge of the FBI in Michigan, said in a statement.

Wimberly's Inkster home is facing foreclosure, according to Wayne County records as he owes $6,966 in unpaid county property taxes. A Michigan state lien filed in 2018 for $2,979 in unpaid taxes was released in August. He has been assigned a court-appointed attorney, according to court documents.

"Elected public officials owe a duty to their community to act in the citizens' best interest," Dawn Ison, the U.S. Attorney for the Eastern District of Michigan, said in a statement Tuesday.

Patrick Wimberly

Wimberly is currently campaigning for reelection against attorney Byron Nolen who served as mayor from 2015 until 2019. The mayoral election is set for Nov. 7.

Courtroom canine

New county advocate offers support to victims, witnesses

Witnesses and victims have a new advocate in the Wayne County Prosecutor's Office who offers a unique skill set along with her sweet nature and calm demeanor.

Jellybean, the first canine court advocate in the county office, is described as half black Labrador and half Golden Retriever. In February 2023, Mark Hindelang, the chief of information and technology at the prosecutor's office, along with his wife and three sons, adopted Jellybean. She rides to work with Hindelang daily and reports to her "boss," Child Advocate Jamie Buchholtz. When her tail slows down to a manageable wag after greeting Buchholtz and the other staff members, Jellybean dons her neckerchief and begins her workday. She meets with victims and walks them to court. With a loving look and maybe a small pat she helps to assuage the anxiety of both child and adult victims and witnesses, Buchholtz said.

Jellybean provides a special level of comfort to victims and witnesses in her new job with the Wayne County Prosecutor's office.

Prosecutor Kym Worthy had been hoping to add a special four-footed victim advocate to the Victims' Advocates Unit to serve child and adult victims and witnesses when they participate in a court case. In Michigan all canine advocates, including Jellybean, come from the Leader Dogs for the Blind in Rochester. They go through two years of intensive obedience and service training. Jellybean had a tendency to stop while walking which led to her reassignment to the Canine Advocacy Program (CAP) in Oakland County.

Jellybean then successfully completed six weeks of intensive training to become "certified" as a canine advocate. She must not react to courtroom distractions, needs to be able to walk on a lead without pulling, and to remain in a "sit/stay" position while her handler moves out of her sight range. During her training, Wayne County Court Services provided an empty courtroom so that mock trials could be conducted with county volunteers to familiarize her with

See **Jellybean,** page 4

Wayne, Westland awarded state development grants

The cities of Wayne and Westland were among those awarded Revitalization and Placemaking grants from the State of Michigan last week.

Governor Gretchen Whitmer and representatives from the Michigan Economic Development Corporation (MDEC) announced the grant awards last week. Grants to 10 state communities totaled $99.2 million.

The City of Wayne was awarded $458,990 and Westland will receive $1 million as part of the program.

"Today's grants underscore our commitment to the people, places, and projects that are integral to the growth of Michigan's economy," said Whitmer. "These investments will help create vibrant places that attract and retain talent, add new housing options, enable business creation and attraction, and provide resources for Michiganders and our communities. I will work with anyone and do anything to continue getting things done for our state."

The program is part of $100 million in state funding to address the COVID-19 impacts and community revitalization needs in Michigan. The funding is awarded for investment in projects that enable population and tax revenue growth through rehabilitation of vacant and blighted buildings and historic structures, rehabilitation and development of vacant properties, and development of permanent place-based infrastructure associated with social zones and traditional downtowns, outdoor dining, and place-based public spaces, according to a prepared release from the state offices.

Administered by MEDC, this program provides access to real estate and place-based infrastructure development gap financing in the form of grants of up to $5 million per project for real estate rehabilitation and development, grants of up to $1 million for public space place-based infrastructure per project, and grants of up to $20 million to local or regional partners who develop a subgrant program, the statement continued.

Northville

Schools welcome new police resource officer

Northville Township Police Ofc. Robert McFadden has been appointed as the School Resource Officer (SRO) in partnership with the Northville Public Schools district.

McFadden served as a deputy sheriff in Washtenaw County for more than five years before joining the Northville department. During his tenure there, "he demonstrated a strong commitment to youth programs, further solidifying his qualifications for this crucial position within our school community," school officials said.

McFadden officially assumed his responsibilities as an SRO Sept. 25 and is now stationed at Meads Mill Middle School. He has the capacity to provide support and coverage to any of the Northville Public Schools facilities within Northville Township, according to a statement from the school administration.

"This addition to the Northville Public Schools' SRO team marks a significant step towards enhancing the positive presence of law enforcement within our educational institutions. McFadden, along with Ofc. Michael Brown, who has been serving as the SRO officer at Northville High School since 2021, will continue his role as the SRO officer at Northville High School since 2021, will work collaboratively to create safe and inclusive environments for our students," the statement continued.

> *This addition to the Northville Public Schools' SRO team marks a significant step towards enhancing the positive presence of law enforcement within our educational institutions.*

In addition to McFadden and Brown, Ofc. Andrew Domzalski will continue his role as the community service officer, partnering with his companion, Max, the therapy dog affectionately known as "paw-ficer Max." This dynamic team has played a vital role in supporting students' emotional well-being and building trust within the school community, officials said.

"Northville Public Schools looks forward to the positive contributions Ofc. McFadden will make to our educational community and welcomes him with open arms.

'We are confident that his dedication, experience, and passion will help us continue to build a bright and secure future for our students," the prepared statement concluded.

'Library of Things' is now available in Northville

The Northville District Library offers much more than the traditional books, CDs, and movies that most people might expect.

The newest collection available in the Northville facility is the Library of Things. The library has offered T-Mobile hotspots for years, as well as webcams, and more recently tabletop telescopes. In the last year STEM kits for children were added. This summer fishing poles for adults and children were added and this month sees the addition of even more items to this special collection including: Birding Kits, Disc Golf sets, Personal CD Players, Portable CD players, a Sony Blu-Ray Player, and a Travel Chess Set, librarians said.

The birding kits available for loan include a backpack with binoculars and how-to books on birding. The newly available Disc Golf sets feature a set of discs to take along to a local course and play.

The library also has personal CD players available for loan which can be plugged into an outlet. Borrowers can play favorite CDs while on vacation or doing household chores. Portable CD players, which some fondly remember as Discmans, do not require a WiFi connection. This player requires batteries and headphones, which are not included in the kit.

The new Travel Chess Set allows borrowers to take the game wherever they find opponents in the classic game of strategy. The library also offers several books on chess, illustrating hundreds of tactics to checkmate the king of your adversary.

Librarians said more items will be added to the Library of Things available at the Northville location.

For more information, visit Northville District Library on Facebook: https://nvillelib.org/NDLFacebook, visit: www.northvillelibrary.org, email: nortref@northvillelibrary.org, or call 248-349-3020.

Heroes on Hines

Northville Township Firefighters Pete Michalak and Kevin Pietrasinski laced up their running shoes and hit the pavement for the 2023 Heroes on Hines 5K last week. The annual charity run drew a large crowd of runners again this year, organizers said. The event highlights physical fitness and fees generated fund ongoing maintenance and preservation of the First Responders Memorial, located at the intersection of Hines Drive and Haggerty Road in Plymouth Township.

Voice of experience

Officer Erik Kaledas has joined the Northville Township Police Department. Kaledas has more than a quarter century of law enforcement experience as he served for 25 years on the Canton Township Police Department before joining Northville. Prior to his service in Canton, he served in the Michigan Army National Guard, officials said.

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trebellav@gmail.com

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Wednesday 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM
Friday 8:00 AM - 2:00 PM
Saturday 8:00 AM - 2:00 PM
John D. Hamerink, M.S., D.D.S
Howard A. Hamerink, DDS
www.HamerinkDental.com

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59. Auctions

GARDEN CITY AUCTION
THESE VEHICLES HAVE BEEN DEEMED ABANDONED AND WILL BE SOLD AT PUBLIC AUCTION. THE AUCTION WILL BE HELD ON TUESDAY, 17TH, 2023 AT 11:00 AM AT 6345 HIX, WESTLAND, MI 48185.

THE VEHICLES WILL BE SOLD AS. STARTING BID IS FOR TOWING AND STORAGE.

VEHICLES ARE SOLD AS IS AND MAY BE REMOVED FROM AUCTION PRIOR TO BIDDING. ALL BIDS START AT AMOUNT SHOWN FOR TOWING AND STORAGE FEES.

2010 FORD
3FAHP0JA9AR270857
1984 MERCEDES
WDBBA45A7EA006540
2014 FORD
1FADP3F28EL246247
2006 PONTIAC
1G2ZG558864205196
2011 FORD
3FAHP0HA6BR156015
2010 FORD
1FMCU9D70AKC11973
2010 LINCOLN
2LMDJ8JC2ABJ28276
2010 FORD
3FAHP0JA4AR366654
2003 CHEVROLET
1GNEK13Z33J213689
2011 CHEVROLET
3GNBAAFW3BS580824
2003 CHEVROLET
2G1WW12E739252242
2003 CHRYSLER
1C4GJ45363B184908
2015 AMERICAN
1A9US0814F1668237
2007 TOYOTA
JTMZK31V575014034
2004 BUICK
2G4WS52J541298638
2002 HONDA
JHMCG56472C016082
2013 HONDA
MLHPC441XD5002277
2009 DODGE
2B3KA33V59H554594
2011 KIA
5XYKT3A15BG073421
2009 VOLKSWAGEN
3VWPG31CX9M502364

J&M TOWING
8964 INKSTER RD
ROMULUS MI 48174
THE FOLLOWING VEHICLES HAVE BEEN DEEMED ABANDON AND WILL BE SOLD AT PUBLIC AUCTION ON 10/25/2023 AT 11:30 P.M.

2014 INTERNATIONAL
3HSDJAPT0EN789342
1997 MERCURY
2MELM74W4VX741560
2014 NISSAN
5N1AR2MMXEC629737
2002 FORD
1FAFP55252A216409
2008 JEEP
1J8GN28K48W244348
2008 FORD
3FAHP08168R220479
1996 MERCURY
2MELM74W1TX672503
2004 FORD
1FMYU93144KB61392
2004 CHEVROLET
1GNFK16Z14J185375
2015 FREIGHTLINER
1FUJGLD5XFLGB2597
2001 HONDA
1HGCG16581A008586
2011 FORD
1FMCU0EG3BKA37196
1998 CHEVROLET
1GCEC19W9WE234613
2000 CHEVROLET
2G1WW12EXY9158010
1994 GMC
2GTFK29K1R1517300
1990 GMC
2GTEK19K4L1510161
1992 FORD
1FTDF15N9NKA64933
1998 CHEVROLET
1GBKC34J2WF054088
2000 JEEP
1J4FF48S4YL187656
1988 FORD
1FABP45E4JF178529
2002 CHEVROLET
1GCDT13W12K172513
2011 CHEVROLET
1G1ZC5E18BF258577
2003 CHEVROLET
2G1WX12K539316393
2005 GMC
1GKDT13S652240679
2002 CHEVROLET
2G1WW12E229288693
2012 DODGE
1C3CDZAB0CN109916
2006 PONTIAC
1G2ZM551764157010
2000 MERCURY
1MEFM53SXYG623586
2016 NISSAN
1N4AL3AP1GN328345
2007 BUICK
3G5DAD3L57S590484
2004 BUICK
3G5DA03E74S570069
2004 JEEP
1J4GW48S14C108944
1998 FORD
1FTNE24L4WHA22357
2002 MERCURY
1MEFM55S52G627954
1994 PONTIAC
2G2FV22P7R2247758
2005 FORD
1FAFP532X5A208720
2004 FORD
1FMCU94114KA79578
2013 DODGE
1C3CDZAB2DN535057
2013 FORD
1FADP3F27DL123182
1998 FORD
2FMZA5140WBE07421
2004 MAZDA
4F2YZ04154KM24988

STORAGE SALE NOTICE

NOTICE is hereby given that EZ Storage, Lessor, will sell at Auction to the highest bidder, at its office at 14415 N. Sheldon Rd. Plymouth, MI 48170 on the 15th November 2023 at 04:00 PM, local time.

The Property of its Lessee(s) described below for storage costs specified plus legal costs of sale, all as provided for by the terms of the lease.

UNIT 1023
Monica Bozenski

AGGRESSIVE LITIGATION
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74 WEST LONG LAKE ROAD
SUITE 200
BLOOMFIELD HILLS, MICHIGAN 48304
(248) 645-1450 • FAX (248) 645-2311

PLYMOUTH

Smooth operation

Paving of the new municipal parking lot on Ann Arbor Trail and Deer Street was under way last week as crews installed the base coat of asphalt. Officials said the concrete work would be completed before the final paving at The Saxton's Municipal Lot. The installation of the Electric Vehicle (EV) chargers has been requested from DTE energy, the added, while the light poles for installation of lighting of the lot and walkways remain on back order. No date for completion of the downtown city parking project has been announced.

Sentencing date set in home arson case

A Plymouth Township man will be sentenced Oct. 17 after being found guilty of arson in the fire that destroyed his home in 2019.

Patrick Nolan, 42, is facing life in prison following the guilty verdict in Third Circuit Court of one count of arson of an insured dwelling and one count of second-degree arson. Each charge also carries a potential fine of $20,000 or three times the value of the destroyed property, whichever is greater, according to court records.

Following the 2 a.m. fire Jan. 1, 2019 at a home Nolan owned in the 50000 block of Sheffield Court, investigators from both the fire and police departments determined that gasoline had been poured throughout the home and deliberately ignited at three areas of the house. Fires had been started in the master bedroom, a basement storage room and in a hall at the top of the basement stairs, according to prosecutors from the office of Michigan Attorney General Dana Nessel.

Investigators were able to obtain information from a system in Nolan's truck to place him at the home just prior to the blaze, according to court filings.

Nolan filed an insurance claim for damages to the home. There was no one in the house during the fire and no injuries were reported, according to authorities.

"Every arson represents another instance where our firefighters and first responders risk their lives to protect public safety, and that's an unacceptable danger to our communities," Nessel said.

Hydrant maintenance under way

The Department of Municipal Services crews will be performing their annual, routine hydrant flushing and testing in the City of Plymouth during the month of October.

Residents may experience lower than normal water pressure and/or discolored water in their homes for a brief time as the regular maintenance continues. Officials suggest that residents run the cold water for several minutes to flush out the plumbing if the situation occurs.

Discoloration that may occur is due to natural minerals in the water being stirred up in the hydrant flushing process, officials noted. The water will remain safe to drink at all times throughout this process, they added.

For more information, contact the Plymouth Municipal Services Department at dms@plymouthmi.gov or (734) 453-7737.

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON
REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Charter Township of Canton, 1150 Canton Center S, Canton, Michigan will accept sealed proposals at the Office of the Clerk up to 3:00 p.m. Thursday, October 26, 2023, for the following:

BARN & WOODWORK RESTORATION - HISTORICAL

Bid may be downloaded on the MITN Purchasing Group website at https://www.bidnetdirect.com/mitn/cantontownship or you may contact Mike Sheppard at: mike.sheppard@cantonmi.gov. All bids must be submitted in a sealed envelope clearly marked with the proposal name, company name, address and telephone number and date and time of bid opening. The Township reserves the right to accept or reject any or all proposals. The Township does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age or disability in employment or the provision of services.

MICHAEL SIEGRIST, CLERK

Publish 10/12/2023

CN2513 - 101223 2.5 x 2.052

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF CANTON
REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Charter Township of Canton, 1150 Canton Center S, Canton, Michigan will accept sealed proposals at the Office of the Clerk up to 3:00 p.m. Thursday, October 26 2023 for the following:

SUMP PUMP REPLACEMENT - ADMINISTRATION BUILDING

Bid may be downloaded on the MITN Purchasing Group website at https://www.bidnetdirect.com/mitn/cantontownship or you may contact Mike Sheppard at: mike.sheppard@cantonmi.gov. All bids must be submitted in a sealed envelope clearly marked with the proposal name, company name, address and telephone number and date and time of bid opening. The Township reserves the right to accept or reject any or all proposals. The Township does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age or disability in employment or the provision of services.

MICHAEL SIEGRIST, CLERK

Publish 10/12/2023

CN2514 - 101223 2.5 x 2.052

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF NORTHVILLE
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
November 6, 2023 at 7:00 PM

The Planning Commission will hold a public hearing at the Northville Township Municipal Offices, 44405 Six Mile Road, Northville, MI 48168 to consider a Conditional Rezoning request from Industrial (I-1) to Northville Road Mixed Use (NRMU) for the property located at 16580 Northville Rd.

The public is invited to attend this public hearing and express their comments or ask questions. Information will be available for viewing at the Township between 8:00 AM and 4:30 PM, Monday through Friday. Written comments will be received by the Northville Township Planning Commission at 44405 Six Mile Road, Northville, MI 48168 no later than 12:00 PM on the day on the above meeting.

Matthew Wilk, Chair
Planning Commission

Publish: October 12, 2023

NT0229 - 101223 2.5 x 2.071

CITY OF ROMULUS

BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS NOTICE OF A PUBLIC HEARING
WEDNESDAY, November 1, 2023

Notice is hereby given that the City of Romulus Board of Zoning Appeals will hold the following public hearings at **7:00 p.m.** on **Wednesday, November 1, 2023** at the Romulus City Hall, 11111 Wayne Road to consider the following petitions:

1. TEMP-2023-001; **Clarion Park and Fly**, requesting temporary use approval for 30 existing parking spaces to be utilized for Airport Park and Fly. The subject property is located at **8600 Merriman Road** (DP# 80-043-99-0004-701).
2. BZA-2023-015; **Melvin Maughmer**, requesting a variance from *Section 3.05(a)(1), Fences - Location and Height of the Zoning* Ordinance to erect a 9' wood privacy fence where only 6' is permitted. The subject property is located at **34900 McBride** (DP# 80-062-99-0002-002).
3. BZA-2023-016; **Romulus Self Storage**, requesting variances from the Zoning Ordinance for the development of a self-storage facility on property that is located at **37270 Northline** (DP# 80-079-99-0019-703) and zoned M2, General Industrial:
   a. A variance from Section 13.03(b)(3), *Fences and Screening Walls* to allow a fence in front yard setbacks on the north and south sides of the property; and
   b. A variance from Section 14.02(a)(3)(b), *Off-Street Parking Facility Design* to allow small curb "bump outs" in the front yard setback.
4. BZA-2023-017; **Joe Oram - Billboard**, requesting a variance from Chapter 48, Signs Section 48-7, Specific Requirements by type of sign to allow a 70' 'V' shaped billboard where only 45' is allowed. The subject property is located at **28275 Smith** (DP# 80-048-99-0004-700).
5. BZA-2023-018; **Joe Oram - Billboard**, requesting a variance from Chapter 48, Signs Section 48-7, Specific Requirements by type of sign to allow a 70' 'V' shaped billboard where only 45' is allowed. The subject property is located at **36333 Northline** (DP# 80-113-99-0009-000).

Copies of the applications are available for review in the Planning Department located at the Department of Public Services (12600 Wayne Road) during regular business hours which are 8:00 am - 4:00 pm, Monday through Friday. Any questions regarding the application should be directed to Carol Maise, City Planning in the Planning Department at 734-955-4530. Written comments may be submitted and should be addressed to the Planning Department, 12600 Wayne Road, Romulus, MI 48174-1485. All interested parties are encouraged to attend and will be given an opportunity to comment on said requests. Anyone planning to attend the meeting who has need of special assistance under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is asked to contact the Planning Secretary (734-955-4530) 48 hours prior to the meeting. Our staff will be pleased to make necessary arrangements.

Ellen Craig-Bragg, City Clerk
City of Romulus, Michigan
Publish: October 12, 2023

RM0763 - 101223 2.5 x 6.281

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Friendly Reassurance
Program

Friendly Reassurance is a **FREE** program for HOMEBOUND seniors who are aged 60 years and up!

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These calls help to combat social isolation, improve a person's well-being, and provide a warm, **friendly** voice for them to talk with.

Eligibility Requirements

* Be of age 60 or older
* Reside in one of the 34 communities of southern and western Wayne County.
* Access to a landline or cell phone
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To Learn More
Call (734) 722-2830
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Wayne - Westland

Mayor stresses progress in State of the City

Westland Mayor Michael P. Londeau used his first State of the City address to honor three residents for their outstanding commitment to improving the quality of life in the city.

Londeau honored former Mayor William R. Wild for his past work as the leader of the city and his continued involvement in community efforts. He also recognized the dedication and accomplishments of City Clerk Richard LeBlanc and the work of Senior Resources Director Barbara Marcum, noting that each of them has contributed greatly to the improvement of the community.

More than 350 individuals attended the address at the Senior Friendship Center last week and applauded the community honorees.

Londeau spoke to the crowd reminding them of the accomplishments in the city during the past year. He noted the approval of the balanced 3-year budget that preserves a "rainy day" fund balance of nearly $6.5 million with no tax increases and the saving of millions of dollars in pension fund contributions with the receipt of a grant in the amount of $26 million from the State of Michigan Department of Treasury.

> *As you can see, we've*
> *been taking care of business.*
> *But…you ain't seen nothing yet!*

In addition, Londeau reminded the audience of the upgrades to the police station and fleet of vehicles and the addition of firefighters to the department. He said a $5.7 million SAFER grant would fund the increased department with no matching funds from the city.

The launch of the Neighborhood Makeover 2.0 Program which invested $5 million in replacement of deficient and hazardous sidewalks, at no additional cost to homeowners was also lauded by Londeau. He noted that the Neighborhood Makeover Program also includes the launch of a pilot speed bump program to confront the rise of dangerous driving in city neighborhoods.

The popular leaf-pickup program was revived in the community at no additional cost to residents, he said, along with the creation of the first emergency response team, as well as a Citizen Emergency Response Team to assist when the city encounters power outages, floods, and any other emergency.

Londeau noted the reopening of the pond in Central City Park, with a brand new walking path for residents and the opening of the Mission to Mars playscape at Central City Park, a finalist for the coveted Michigan Municipal League Community Excellence Award.

He reminded the audience of the acceleration of the Commercial Revitalization Program to demolish long blighted properties and encourage new development at those sites and the creation of a public green space and catalyst for redevelopment in the "Annex at Nankin," located next to the Westland Shopping Center. That space is set to open next spring he told the assembled crowd.

Michael Londeau

"As you can see, we've been taking care of business," Londeau said in closing. "But…you ain't seen nothing yet!"

For more information about any of the programs, call (734) 467-3200.

Jellybean

FROM PAGE 1

the noises and movement associated with being in court.

Buchholtz continues Jellybean's training twice a week. Jellybean has not yet been involved in a trial but has attended several pretrial interviews with victims of all ages. She has been present in interviews with child victims, adult victims of sexual assault, domestic violence, and is requested for witnesses of homicides. She does not need to be present in the courtroom to be a benefit to victims and witnesses, Buchholtz explained.

"The effect Jellybean has on nervous or vulnerable victims really needs to be seen to be believed. She has a calming effect on nervous children and adults who must come to court to discuss difficult facts," Buchholtz said.

Jellybean is a service dog, she is not an office therapy dog, Buchholtz stressed.

"The biggest difference is that a service dog is present only for victims and witnesses of crime. She is a working dog, and our staff is trained to respect her role in the office," Buchholtz added.

"I have wanted to have a canine advocate for years, but several things must come together for this to happen. I am so pleased that Mark and Jamie have shown such commitment and dedication to provide our crime victims with an exceptional new advocate. Jellybean's contribution has already been invaluable. She is helping to soothe children and adults who are faced with a difficult and unusual situation. We look forward to her service for years to come," Worthy said.

Veterans holiday meals available

While Halloween pumpkins and decorations are appearing throughout the community, Wayne and Westland officials have Thanksgiving on their minds.

Westland Mayor Michael Londeau, Wayne Mayor John Rhaesa and Wayne Ford Civic League President Vic Barra are already planning the 10th Annual Holiday Meals for Wayne-Westland veterans, surviving spouses, and families of active duty service members.

Registration for the free meals is already being accepted and suggested, officials said. Registration is available online at: https://www.cityofwestland.com/.../Holiday-Meals-for... or contact Londeau's office, (734) 467-3200 or email: mayor@cityofwestland.com. Registration is also available at Rhaesa's office, (734) 722-2000 or email: JRhaesa@cityofwayne.com. Registration forms are also available at the Westland City Hall greeter station.

Applications must be submitted no later than noon Wednesday, Nov. 15 to receive a complete holiday meal, "compliments of a grateful community," officials said.

Veterans and/or their families can pick up the free meals from 10 a.m. until 1 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 18 at Wayne Ford Civic League 1645 N. Wayne Road in Westland. Pre-registration for the meals is required.

For more information, call (734) 728-5010.

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CANTON

Canton Fine Arts exhibition features local talent

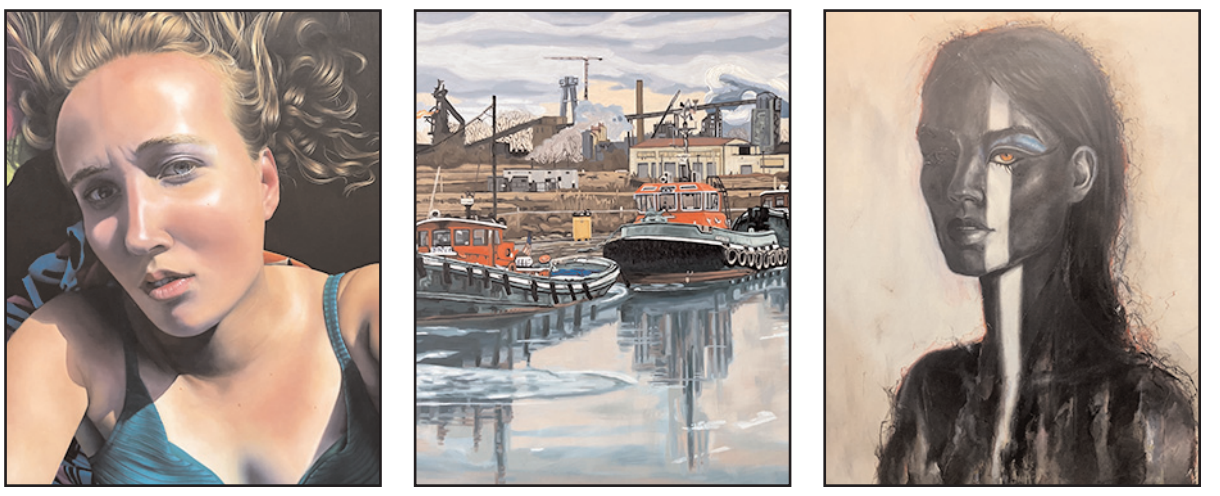
Recently created art in a variety of media is on display during the "29th Annual Canton Fine Arts Exhibition," at The Village Theater Gallery at Cherry Hill.

The popular exhibit contains works in a variety of media from some of the finest artists in the area, organizers said. The display includes works in: oil, acrylic, photography, cutwork, watercolor, graphite, inks, charcoal, conte/pastel, pen and ink, sculpture, and mixed media. A total of 150 works were submitted, and 34 entries were accepted by juror Jeff Cancelosi as part of the exhibition, which will continue through Oct. 29 in The Gallery at Cherry Hill.

"Once again we are so pleased to showcase the works of these highly talented artists in Canton," said The Gallery at Cherry Hill Coordinator Elli Fassois.

Cancelosi, an artist, curator and photographer widely recognized for his photographic portraits of national, regional and local artists. His artwork has been juried into shows across the United States by curators from the Whitney Museum of American Art, the Detroit Institute of Arts, the Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, the DIA Art Foundation of New York, the Berkeley Art Museum, and others.

Featured artists, include: Jean-Paul Aboudib, Susan Aitken, Loralei R. Byatt, Nancy Coumoundouros, Christina Czaja, Jennifer Davis, Ava Doyle, Alex Gilford, Rarroon, Debbie Grifka, Bryan Grose, Marcia Hales, Tina Hotchkiss, Larry Hoxey, Jenn Kesler, Linda Klenczar, Margaret Larson, John Middlestead, Michael Morelli, Lidia Natanail, Robert du Nord, Robert Piatek, Kelly Potter, James Rodriguez, Jeffery Schofield, Claudia Selene, Nicole Szymanski, Alicia Vasseli, Nancy Wanchik, Michele Wyatt Friss, and Lori Ann Zurvalec.



A variety of works now on display in the 29th Annual Canton Fine Arts Exhibition at the Gallery at Cherry Hill in The Village Theater at Cherry Hill.

The Village Theater Gallery at Cherry Hill has exhibition hours throughout the year (except for major holidays), from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. Tuesday and Wednesday and from 4 until 8 p.m. Thursday and Friday, by appointment and during all public performances. The exhibition is free and open to the public.

The Village Theater is located at 50400 Cherry Hill Road in Canton. For additional information, visit www.cantonvillagetheater.org or call (734) 394-5300.

'Cabaret' to benefit American Cancer Society planned

A cabaret of entertainment is planned Oct. 25 at the Village Theatre in Canton Township to benefit the American Cancer Society Relay For Life of Canton and Plymouth planned for next spring.

Relay for Life of Canton and Plymouth members are organizing the ACS (American Cancer Society) evening of song, dance and entertainment set to begin at 7 p.m. Oct. 25. The ACS Telethon Cabaret will feature vocal numbers from the complete American songbook, utilizing the talent and dedication of singers, musicians, dancers and actors from the community.

Organizers said this is the fifth annual event which has consistently proven to be a family favorite. Music will range from Disney classics to musical theater, jazz to pop, and American standards along with music of the movies.

The cabaret will be under the musical direction of Village Arts Factory Community Program Director Kevin Ryan and will include a live band as well as a cast of talented individuals and special appearances from some local celebrities, organizers said.

The cabaret will include a dessert and sweet treats bar featuring Cold Stone Creamery ice cream and offer a chance to participate in the Prize Pull, 50/50 drawing and other entertainment. A cash bar will be available for drinks and refreshments.

Rehearsals are under way for the Oct. 25 Canton Cabaret, a benefit for the Canton and Plymouth Relay for Life.

All proceeds and donations from the event will benefit the American Cancer Society Relay for Life of Canton and Plymouth.

A pre-show reception is planned at 6 p.m. Tickets are $25 and are available at www.cantonvillagetheater.org.

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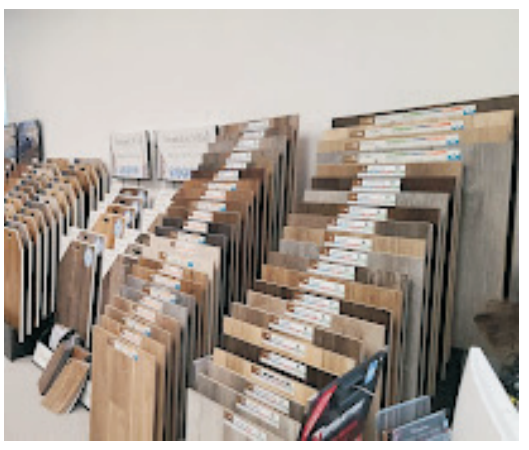

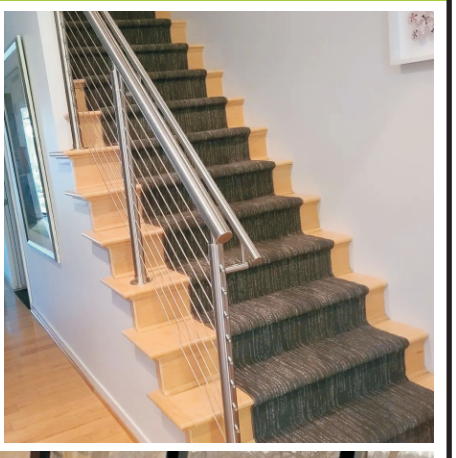

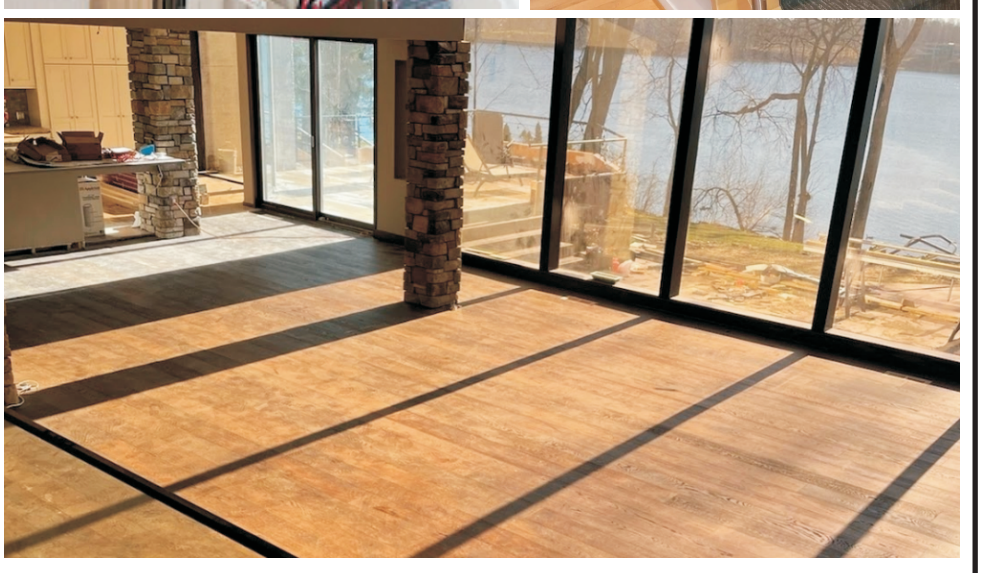

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Inkster - Romulus - Sumpter

Roommate sought in stabbing death

Inkster police are searching for Yanko Romero, 40, who is considered a person of interest in the death of a 34-year-old Inkster resident.

Officers were dispatched to a home in the 1400 block of Meadow Lane in Inkster at about 9:45 p.m. Oct. 4 in response to a request for a welfare check by family members who had not been able to reach the resident for several days. When officers arrived at the home they discovered the resident deceased in the garage, apparently the victim of a stabbing, according to police reports.

Romero reportedly lived in the home with the deceased. He spoke with police Sept. 23 after being transported to a nearby hospital suffering from an undisclosed medical condition. Police suspect the stabbing death may have happened that day. Romero was discharged from the hospital Sept. 26 and may have left for Fort Meyers, Florida area where it is believed he has a residence.

Police said Romero is 6-feet, 4-inches tall and weighs about 180-200 pounds and has long, dark hair. Anyone with information is asked to call the Inkster Police Department at 313-563-9850 or Crime Stoppers at 800-Speak Up.

March on

Members of the Romulus High School Marching Eagles will participate in the 97th America's Thanksgiving Parade® presented by Gardner White in downtown Detroit. This year, the parade celebrates A Heart of History and all floats and marchers will promote the theme. The parade will be shown on Channel 4 WDIV beginning at 8:45 Thanksgiving morning Nov. 23. At the end of the parade, viewers can vote for the best marching ensemble.

Vendors Market and Bake sale is planned

Some sweet bargains will await visitors at the Sumpter Community Center this month.

The Sumpter Township Fall Vendors Market and Bake Sale will take place from 9 a.m. until 4 p.m. Friday Oct. 27 and Saturday, Oct. 28. Some table rentals, priced at $10 may still be available for vendors. For table rental information, contact Maryann Watson at the Sumpter Senior Center, (734) 461-9373.

The Community Center is located at 25301 Sumpter Road.

The mission of the Sumpter Township Senior Center is to do all within the restraints of time, funding and manpower to provide a safe and enjoyable environment where seniors may congregate, according to the website. The center staff also acts as a liaison between area seniors, social service agencies, Wayne County and the Sumpter Township administration.

The center hosts regular activities promoting health, recreation, education and socialization for seniors, according to the center mission statement. The center provides a nutrition program at 11:30 a.m. Monday through Friday with a suggested donation of $3. For information about the nutrition program, or to register, call (734) 727-7357.

> *The center hosts regular activities promoting health, recreation, education and socialization for seniors.*

The center also provides access to free and low-cost transportation and travel excursions and technology assistance, WIFI and multiple education classes.

Trunk or Treat event set

Sumpter Township will again host the popular Trunk or Treat Halloween celebration in the parking lot of the Community Center.

The annual event is planned from 6 until 8 p.m. Monday, Oct. 30. Those who wish to take part in distributing candy to costumed children need to make a reservation for a parking spot from which to hand out treats.

To reserve a parking spot, call (734) 256-4406. The best decorated trunk at the event will be awarded a prize, organizers said.

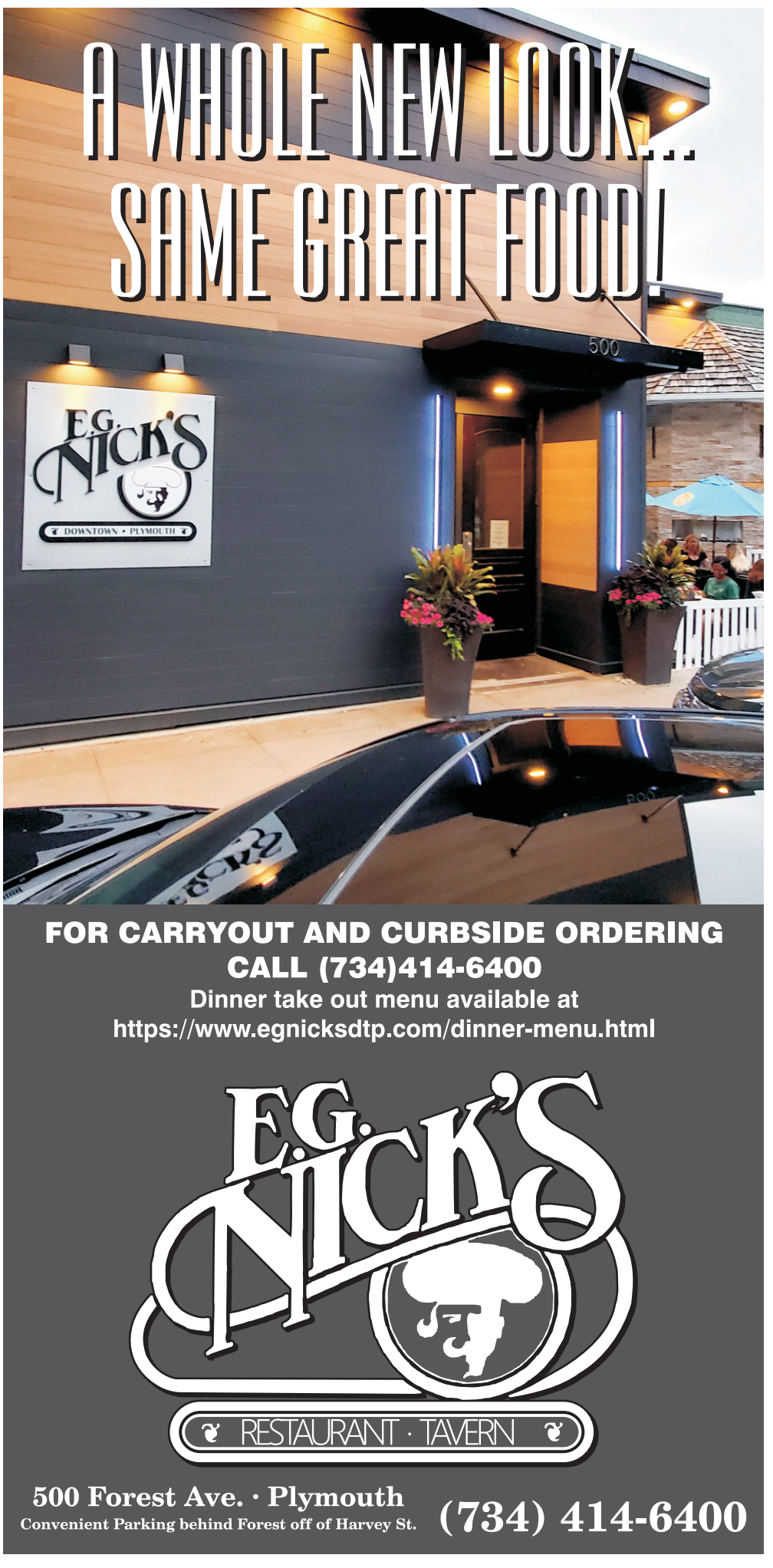
The community center is located at 23501 Sumpter Road.

Construction closes Middlebelt

Some drivers in Romulus received a surprise last week as their regular route along Middlebelt Road was interrupted by construction work.

Wayne County Road Commission officials have closed the roadway between Northline and Eureka for about another month, officials said. The closure began Oct. 2 and will continue for an estimated 45 days.

Drivers are being rerouted to Inkster Road as an alternate route during the closure of Middlebelt.



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